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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

TO THE



SEATON VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1956.

Council Offices,  
SEATON DELAVAL,  
Whitley Bay,  
Northumberland.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SEATON VALLEY

1956.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: ----- Councillor T.V.Longstaff, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: -- Councillor T.W.Thirlwell.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health.

Health Committee  
Housing Committee

Highways and General Purposes Committee  
Finance and Establishment Committee.

Members of the Council.

Councillors

R. Allan, O.B.E., J.P.  
J.E. Atkinson  
G. Brown  
T.S. Brown  
F. Cleverley    ✱  
J. Clough  
Coyne, Mrs. A.H.E.  
Dawson, Mrs. E.B.  
R.R. Fenwick  
R.W. Foggett  
W. Forster  
F. Gleadle  
Hall, Mrs. E.  
W.J. Hampton, B.E.M., J.P.  
T.H. Hancock

E.W. Henzell  
T.V. Longstaff  
J.G. Martin, J.P.  
J. May  
W. Mordue  
J.W. Murphy, B.E.M.  
M. Neary  
Nevin, Mrs. R.  
P. Nicholson  
J.W. Patterson, J.P.  
A. Sanderson, J.P.  
E.W. Simpson  
G.E. Sumner  
T.W. Thirlwell  
R. Thornton.

✱ Chairman of Health Committee  
Health Committee - The whole Council.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health - William Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health - Mrs. Evelyn M. Hall, M.B., B.S.

Chief Public Health Inspector - James Ronald Wilson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
Certificate of R.S.I. & S.I.E. Joint Board  
Meat & Other Foods Inspector's Certificate  
Certificate of R.S.H. in Sanitary Science Applied to Buildings and Public Works  
Smoke Inspector's Certificate of Royal Society of Health  
Duties include Public Cleansing less Street Cleansing.

Additional Public Health Inspector - Ronald Simpson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
Certificate of R.S.I. & S.I.E. Joint Board  
Meat & Other Foods Inspector's Certificate  
Duties include Food Inspection.

Chief Clerk - Thomas J. Elliott

Clerk/Pupils - Colin Mullarkey to 31st March 1956  
Ernest Johnson from 17th September 1956.





Council Offices,  
SEATON DELAVAL,  
Whitley Bay,  
Northumberland,

26th August 1957

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district during the year 1956.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

1,551 children up to 4 years of age and 2,891 between 5 and 14 years of age had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December 1956.

The estimated child population for mid-year 1956 was 1,934 up to 4 years of age and 3,990 between 5 and 14 years.

Infectious Diseases:

I have to record an increase in Scarlet Fever, but substantial decreases in Measles and Whooping Cough during 1956.

Scarlet Fever:

28 cases were notified during the year as against 13 in 1955.

Diphtheria:

I have to report an absence of Diphtheria in the district for the eighth year in succession.

Measles:

There was a substantial decrease in the number of cases notified. 63 cases were notified as against 370 in 1955.

Whooping Cough:

10 cases were notified during the year as against 83 in 1955.

Births:

The birth rate is higher than in 1955.

Deaths:

The death rate is slightly lower than in 1955.

Water Supply:

The improvement in the pressure of water at Cramlington was maintained during 1956, except when pumping ceased for filter cleaning purposes on certain Mondays, a day normally set aside for the weekly wash. In the remainder of the district the supplies from the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company and the Tynemouth Corporation were adequate.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sympathetic encouragement during the year and Mr. Wilson, Chief Public Health Inspector, and all the staff for their constant loyalty and hard work.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

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### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in acres) - 12,459

Population: Registrar-General's Estimate of population  
mid-year was 26,270 (26,150)

Inhabited Houses at 31.12.56 according to  
the Rate Book: 8,433

Rateable Value: £173,488 at 1st April, 1957  
(£180,060 at 1st April, 1956)

Sum represented by a penny rate - £650 (£447 in 1956).

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS, CHIEF INDUSTRIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The district depends predominantly on mining and consists of the eleven mining villages of Hartford, Nelson Village, Cramlington, High Pit, East Cramlington, New Hartley, Seaton Delaval, Seghill, Holywell, Backworth and Shiremoor. In addition there are two residential areas of Earsdon and Wellfield. The tendency is for these villages to link up into three conurbations, one including Cramlington, High Pit, and East Cramlington, another Seaton Delaval, New Hartley, Seghill and Holywell and the third Shiremoor and Backworth.

There was during the year only the transient unemployment due to changes of occupation and there is a shortage of labour in the district, but the extremely limited life of some of the collieries in the district is a matter for concern.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	176	193	369
Illegitimate:	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>
	<u>179</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>377</u> (354)

Distribution of births registered in Seaton Valley Urban Area,  
shown in districts:

District	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cramlington:	15	16	-	-	31
Seaton Delaval:	16	13	-	-	29
Seghill:	12	11	-	-	23
Earsdon:	23	21	-	1	45
	66	61	-	1	128

249 births (113 males and 136 females) were registered in other districts. Of these 3 males and 4 females were illegitimate.

Birth Rate:

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 14.35 (13.53 in 1955).

Corrected birth rate (comparability factor 1.00)  
is 14.35.

Still Births:

8 (4 males and 4 females). (9 in 1955).

Rate per 1,000 live and still births - 20.77 (24.76 in 1955).



Deaths:

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
172	124	296 (312 in 1955)

Death of Infants under 1 year of age:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	2	4	6
Illegitimate:	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u> (8)

Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate:	1	2	3
Illegitimate:	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u> (7)

Distribution of Deaths in Districts:

District	Males	Females	Total
Cramlington:	61	31	92
Seaton Delaval:	40	43	83
Seghill:	11	10	21
Earsdon:	60	40	100
	172	124	296

Death Rate:

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 11.25 (11.93 in 1955).

Corrected Death Rate:

The corrected death rate (comparability factor 1.14) is 12.82.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

Puerperal Sepsis	-	-(0)
Other maternal causes	-	-(0).

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	-	29.1	(45.1)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	24.3	(42.6)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	25.0	(0.00)
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	-	63.0	(50)
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	0	(0)
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	0	(0)
Deaths from Whooping Cough	-	0	(0)



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE SEATON VALLEY AREA 1956.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
All causes	172	124

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2
2. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infectious and parastic diseases	-	1
10. Cancer of stomach	4	2
11. Cancer of lung, Bronchus	11	2
12. Cancer of breast	-	3
13. Cancer of uterus	-	6
14. Cancer of all other sites	18	17
15. Leukaemia Aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	29
18. Coronary Diseases, Angina	34	15
19. Hypertension with heart diseases	-	3
20. Other heart disease	28	14
21. Other circulatory disease	4	2
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	4	2
24. Bronchitis	15	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and Duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformation	2	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	-
34. All other accidents	4	2
35. Suicide	3	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	<u>172</u>	<u>124</u>

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

#### Laboratory Facilities:

Use was made of the Public Health Laboratories at Newcastle General Hospital and at Government Buildings, Blakelaw, Newcastle.

The following examinations were made in these Laboratories during 1956.

<u>Examination Requested:</u>	<u>Swabs</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Diphtheria	3	-	3
B. Tuberculosis Sputum	89	13	76
Strept. Haemolyticus	2	-	2
Faeces (for Organisms)	53	18	35
Urine (Organisms)	3	1	2
	<u>150</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>118</u>

#### Ambulance Services:

These are under the jurisdiction of the Northumberland County Council. There is an Ambulance Depot of the County Council in Seaton Delaval, which houses four modern ambulance vehicles and there is a 24 hour service.

#### Nursing in the Home:

This is dealt with by the Northumberland County Council.

#### Hospitals:

Infectious disease cases are now dealt with at Moor Park Hospital, Tynemouth, or Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. General medical and surgical cases are dealt with at hospitals administered by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. Scaffold Hill Hospital at Forest Hall is entirely devoted to geriatrics.

## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Conditions of the Area:

#### Water Supply:

The Council buy water in bulk from two water undertakings and distribute it through the Council's mains. The supply was satisfactory in quality as shewn from the results of samples taken as detailed on page 8 of the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.



The figures of houses supplied by

(a) standpipe (b) internal services

will, of course, be altered, following demolitions and rehousing, and the provision of internal supplies at East Cramlington, East Hartford, Backworth, etc.

Otherwise I can think of no other comment which is appropriate. The pressure at Cramlington was satisfactory all 1956, although it has fallen off this year.

Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

	EARSDON	SEGHILL
Houses supplied by standpipe	161	84
Population	322	130
Houses with internal services	2541	748
Population	9189	2301

Tynemouth Corporation.

	CRAMLINGTON	SEATON DELAVAL
Houses supplied by standpipe	262	520
Population	764	1155
Houses with internal services	2439	1847
Population	7125	5305

#### Drainage and Sewerage:

Sewerage from the whole of the Earsdon, Seaton Delaval, Holywell, Seghill and part of the Cramlington district flows through gravitational sewers and is discharged into the sea. Sewage from the northern part of the district is treated in two disposal works, one at Nelson Village and one at East Hartford.

The effluent from the Nelson Village Works continues to be unsatisfactory. The Council's consulting engineers have reported on the matter, the Northumberland Rivers Board has approved the proposals, and the report has been sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval.

Further damage has been sustained as a result of coal mining. Repairs are executed where possible, but in general remedial works must await the resettlement of the surface.

#### Rivers and Streams:

Closet Accommodation	)	
Public Cleansing	)	
Sanitary Inspection of the District	)	These items are dealt
Shops and Offices	)	with in the Chief
Camping Sites	)	Public Health
Smoke Abatement	)	Inspector's report.
Swimming Baths and Pools	)	
Eradication of Bed Bugs	)	

#### Schools:

The sanitary condition and the water supply of all schools in the Area have been satisfactory.

#### SECTIONS D & E.

Relating to Housing and inspection and supervision of Food are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.



SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever:

28 (13) cases of Scarlet Fever were notified.  
6 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.  
22 cases were isolated at home.

Distribution in the districts was:

Cramlington:	1(3)	cases
Scaton Delaval:	11(6)	"
Seghill:	4(2)	"
Earsdon:	12(2)	"
	<u>28(13)</u>	"

Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population was 1.06 (0.49).

Diphtheria:

The district was free of Diphtheria during the year.

4 throat swabs were submitted to the Laboratory during the year, and all proved negative for Diphtheria.

Pneumonia:

15(20) cases of Pneumonia were notified.

Deaths - 6 (11).

Death rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.22 (0.26).

It is evident that some cases of Pneumonia had not been notified.

Erysipelas:

No cases of Erysipelas were notified during the year.

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1956.

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	28	6	-
Pneumonia	15	2	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	10	2	-
Measles	63	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Meningitis	2	2	-
Para. Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
Para. Typhoid	1	1	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-

# Analysis of Total Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Disease	Age Unk- nown	Un- der 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and Over
Measles	-	3	4	7	9	4	33	-	3	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	2	3	20	1	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	1	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	2	1	1	4
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para.Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para.Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

## Prevention of Blindness:

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

## Tuberculosis:

At the beginning of the year there were 197(184) cases on the register, 164 Pulmonary and 33 Non-Pulmonary.

22 new cases, 20 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary, were reported during the year. 2 cases of Pulmonary were transferred from other districts.

There were 3(2) deaths, all Pulmonary.

199 (197) cases, 168 Pulmonary and 31 Non-Pulmonary were on the register at the end of the year.

1 Pulmonary case was transferred to another district.

12 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary were removed from the register as having recovered.

## New Cases and Mortality during 1956

Age Periods	New Cases		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory
Age Unknown	1	-	-	-
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-
5-	2	-	-	-
15-	3	1	-	-
25-	2	1	1	-
35-	4	-	-	-
45-	5	-	2	-
55-	2	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-
	20	2	3	-

## Distribution of Deaths in Districts

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Cramlington:	-	-	-	-	-
Seaton Delaval:	1	-	-	-	1
Seghill:	1	-	-	-	1
Earsdon:	-	1	-	-	1
	2	1	-	-	3

Death rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) 10.05 (10.15) per 1,000 cases, on the register at the 31st December, 1956.

Death rate per 1,000 population was 0.11 (0.074).



Notification of Tuberculosis:

No action was necessary to enforce notification.

Tuberculosis. B.C.G. Vaccination.

The number of school children B.C.G. vaccinated by the School Medical Officers during 1956 is

B.C.G. Vaccinated

201

Re-vaccinated

10

Venereal Diseases:

Propaganda has been conducted on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health and Central Council for Health Education.

No case had applied to the Department for advice.

National Assistance Act 1948 Sec. 47:

No action under the above was necessary during the year.



Incidence of Infectious Diseases Notified  
Years 1947 - 1956.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	26	122	66	65	48	71	91	36	13	28
Diphtheria	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	2	2	3	-	-	5	2	2	-
Pneumonia	8	8	-	8	10	1	4	15	20	15
Whooping Cough	23	81	38	64	103	34	51	37	83	10
Measles	146	422	162	257	485	250	248	53	570	63
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	2	-	1	2	2	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	2	42	1
Meningitis & Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	2	2	-	-	2	-	4	4	2
Malaria	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis Paralytic	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	3	1	1
Polio-myelitis Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	-
	223	642	273	407	647	369	401	154	536	122



URBAN DISTRICT OF SEATON VALLEY.

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector  
for the Year ending 31st December, 1956.

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To the Chairman & Members  
of the Council:

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

STAFF.

1. During 1956 there was one change in your staff, Mr. C.J. Mullarkey leaving on the 31st March and Mr. Earnest Johnson beginning in his place on 17th September as Clerk/Pupil Public Health Inspector. The period of nearly six months without a Clerk/Pupil Public Health Inspector was due to no suitably qualified young man coming forward when the post was advertised in April and an appointment could be made only after the results of the summer School Certificate Examinations were known.

HOUSING.

2. At the end of the year a survey was carried out of all condemned houses that were still occupied. Most of these were condemned prior to the 1939-45 war and the following tables shew the result of the survey.

Condemned Houses Occupied on 31st December, 1956.

<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Year Condemned</u>
<u>Cramlington Area</u>		
Albion Terrace 12,13,14,15,16,20,21, 22,23,24,25,50,55,60,61	15	1938
Shankhouse Terrace 45,46,47,48,49,52, 53,54,55,56,58,59,60,61,62,63,64, 66,67,68,69,71,72,74,75,76,77,79, 80,81,82,84,85,87,88,89,93,94,96, 97,98,99,100,101,103,104,106,108,112	49	1939
Surgery Cottages 1,2	2	1938
	<u>66</u>	
<u>Earsdon Area</u>		
Bertram Place 1	1	1937
Bukes Cottages, Backworth	1	1939
Ivy Cottage, Earsdon	1	1937
	<u>3</u>	
<u>Seaton Delaval Area</u>		
Colliery Gardens	1	1936
Cross Row, New Hartley 9	1	1937
East Grange Cottages, Holywell	1	1937
Foreman's Row 51	1	1937
Wheatridge Row 19,20,21,22,23,24,26,28, 29,31,32,33,35,37,38,39,40,42,43, 46,47,50,51,52,53,56,57,58,59,60	30	1937
	<u>34</u>	



<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Year Condemned</u>
<u>Seghill</u>		
Blaketown 37, 40, 43, 44, 45, 46, 50, 56, 61, 64, 68	11	1938
Blue Row 1, 8, 9	3	1938
Chapel Row 1	1	1938
Front Street 4, 5, 7, 19	4	1938
Joiner's Cottages 3	1	1938
Main Street 5, 6	2	1938
Mares Close 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9/10, 11	7	1938
Middle Farm 7, 8, 10	3	1938
New Square 3, 4, 5, 6, 39, 40	6	1938
North Tee. 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 12	6	1938
Old Fold 1, 2, 4, 6	4	1938
Post Office Bldgs. 1, 5, 6, 7	4	1938
Quarry 7, 8, 9	3	1937
Reid's Lane	1	1938
	<u>56</u>	

3. Thus the total of houses condemned prewar yet still occupied on 31st December, 1956, was as follows:-

Cramlington Area	66
Earsdon "	3
Seaton Delaval "	34
Seghill "	56
	<u>159</u>

4. In addition to the above 159, the following houses dealt with under the Housing Acts since the 1939-45 war were occupied on 31st December 1956:-

Sandersons Tee., Cramlington				
42 & 44		Demolition Order made in 1952		
28 do. do.	" "	" "	" "	1955
24 do. do.	" "	" "	" "	1956
Boundary Place, do.				
6, 9 & 10	" "	" "	" "	1956

Total - 7 houses.

5. Although there were 166 condemned houses occupied on 31.12.56, a good deal of progress has been made during the year as, in the previous two years, in the rehousing of families from slum property and the following is a list of the 84 houses emptied during 1956:-

<u>Address</u>	<u>Emptied 1956</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
17 Albion Terrace	April	Cranson	1
18 " "	March		1
31 " "	October		1
51 " "	January	Nevin	1
54 " "	February	Cockburn	1
56 " "	July	Dixon	1
57 " "	April	Hamilton	1
63 " "	October	Hogg	1
64 " "	August	Cobb	1
8 Boundary Place	February	Bell	1
7 " "	October	Crooks	1
2 Charlton's Buildings	April	Renney	1
5 " "	February		1
7 " "	March	Riddell	1
8 " "	January	Alexander	1
10 " "	April	Pietkiewicz	1
10 Low Main Place	February	Ross	1
10 Office Road, Hartford	February	Riddell	1
11 " " "	February		1
			<u>19</u>

Address			Emptied 1956	Family Brought forward:	No. of Houses
20	Sandersons Tce.		June	Lucas	1
22	"	"	March	Coppen	1
27	"	"	May	Jewers	1
33	"	"	January	Dixon	1
34	"	"	December	O'Molia	1
50	Shankhouse	"	February	Oliver	1
57	"	"	April	Gilbert	1
65	"	"	March	Carruthers	1
83	"	"	June	Stanbury	1
102	"	"	February	Logan	1
114	"	"	September	Strong	1
					<u>19</u>
					<u>30</u>
52	Blaketown		May	Miller	1
51	"		May	Athey	1
4	Blue Row		May	Hendry	1
7	"	"	May	Symington	1
11	"	"	April	Spencer	1
	Blakes Buildings		January	Glazzard	1
1	Flat Top Row		March	Reid	1
3	"	"	March		1
4	"	"	June	Binks	1
7	"	"	June	Wright	1
10	"	"	July	Moyse	1
11	"	"	July	Tait	1
12	"	"	July	Gillis	1
15	"	"	July	Bradshaw	1
17	"	"	April	Ord	1
18	"	"	July	Jessop	1
19	"	"	May	Smith	1
20	"	"	August	Jones	1
21	"	"	August	McGill	1
1	Ladysmith		January	Atkinson	1
3	"		April	Sidney	1
4	Mares Close		April	Hildreth	1
8	North Terrace		September	Bradshaw	1
2	Post Office Buildings		October		1
1	Quarry Row		February	Symington	1
2	"	"	January	Osborne	1
4	"	"	January	Cousins	1
6	"	"	February	Wilson	1
8	"	"	February	Britton	1
10	"	"	February	Bramley	1
11	"	"	January	Pattison	1
12	"	"	January	Harvey	1
13	"	"	February	Archbold	1
15	"	"	February	Harvey	1
5	West Farm		March		1
9	"	"	March	Tiffin	1
1	Whitehead's Buildings		February	Atkinson	1
2	"	"	April	Moyse	1
3	"	"	March		1
5	"	"	February	Roberts	1
6	"	"	February	Tucker	1
8	"	"	May	Graham	1
9	"	"	February	Brown	1
10	"	"	February	Walters	1
11	"	"	May	Johnson	1
12	"	"	March	Leighton	1
13	"	"	April	Ferry	1
14	"	"	September	Buxton	1
16	"	"	May	Charlton	1
17	"	"	July	Ford	1
18	"	"	January	Fairless	1
19	"	"	March		1
					<u>52</u>
12	Cross Row, New Hartley		January	Corden	1
	Moor Edge Farm House		January	Fisher	1



6. Actual demolitions of empty houses totalled 58. There were 43 at Terrace Road, Klondyke, and 15 at Quarry Row, Seghill. In some of the other streets of condemned property, some of the empty houses are in a state of near collapse and in one street, Shankhouse Terrace, considerable trouble was experienced through occupied houses being flanked on both sides by empty houses without doors or windows. This caused dampness and draughts and the only solution is to empty the occupied houses so that all can be demolished. The owners, the National Coal Board, made some attempt at boarding up the empty houses but the boarding was often removed by trespassers.

Housing Repairs & Rents Act 1954 - Sec 6:

7. Houses occupied under licence still continued to be lived in and I give below the list of those occupied as at 18th July 1957.



Address

Name of Clearance Order

1	12	Albion Terrace, Shankhouse	Albion Terrace, Shankhouse
2	16	"	"
3	23	"	"
4	25	"	"
5	60	"	"
6	24	Shankhouse Terrace, Shankhouse	Shankhouse Terrace, Shankhouse
7	47	"	"
8	49	"	"
9	52	"	"
10	60	"	"
11	63	"	"
12	68	"	"
13	69	"	"
14	74	"	"
15	77	"	"
16	87	"	"
17	93	"	"
18	103	"	"
19	104	"	"
20	106	"	"
21	108	"	"
22	2	Surgery Cottages, East Cramlington	Individual Unfit 26. 1.38
23	1	Bertram Place, Shiremoor	" 26.10.37
24		Ivy Cottage, Earsdon	Earsdon Village
25	19	Wheatridge Row, Seaton Delaval	Wheatridge Row, Seaton Delaval
26	23	"	"
27	26	"	"
28	28	"	"
29	32	"	"
30	35	"	"
31	39	"	"
32	42	"	"
33	46	"	"
34	52	"	"
35	56	"	"
36	57	"	"
37	9	Cross Row, New Hartley	Cross Row, New Hartley
38	1	Old Fold, Seghill	Old Square, New Square & Old Fold, Seghill
39	6	"	"

<u>Address</u>		<u>Name of Clearance Order</u>
40	7 Middle Farm Cottages, Seghill	Middle Farm, Seghill
41	8 " " "	" " "
42	10 " " "	" " "
43	1 Post Office Buildings, Seghill	Whitehead's Buildings, Flat Top Row & Post Office Buildings, Seghill
44	5 " " "	" " "
45	1 Blue Row, Seghill	Blue Row, Seghill
46	8 " " "	" " "
47	9 " " "	" " "
48	5 Main Street, Seghill	Main Street, Seghill
49	6 " " "	" " "
50	7 Front Street, Seghill	Front Street, Burns Yard & Blakes Buildings, Seghill
51	19 " " "	" " "
52	18 Blaketown, Seghill	Blaketown, Seghill
53	46 " " "	" " "
54	61 " " "	" " "
55	64 " " "	" " "
56	68 " " "	" " "
57	1 North Terrace, Seghill	North Terrace, Seghill
58	2 " " "	" " "
59	6 Mares Close, Seghill	Mares Close, Seghill
60	7 " " "	" " "
61	8 " " "	" " "
62	9/10 " " "	" " "
63	11 " " "	" " "
64	3 Joiner's Cottages, Seghill	Individual Unfit 22. 3.35
65	1 The Quarry,	" " 6.12.37
66	2 " "	" " "



### Repair of Dwellings.

8. 527 informal inspections of house property were made and 128 houses repaired as a result.

### Improvement Grants.

9. The procedure is that applicants are asked to send in a brief application without plans or specification in the first instance, and if this is approved by the Council they are then invited to submit detailed proposals and costs.

10. At the 1st January 1956 55 detailed applications had been approved by the Council.

Improvement Grants during 1956			
Preliminary applications received		17	
"	"	approved	4
Detailed	"	received	7
"	"	approved	7
No. of improvement works completed		3	
Amount spent on works completed		£404	

Those completed were	completed on
Dickinson 10 Hector Street, Shiremoor	9th April
Gibson 6 Melrose Avenue, Backworth	18th August
Thomas 9 " " "	10th October

### DRAINAGE.

Drainage Inspected, Tested & Passed during 1956		
Old drains removed	8 feet	
New 4" drain installed	1003	"
" 6" " "	93	"
Defective gullies removed	3	
New trapped gullies provided	44	
Defective W.Cs. removed	7	
New W.Cs. provided	20	
Inspection chambers provided	20	
Baths provided	11	
Urinals "	1	

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

11. Complaints were received on 9th May and spasmodically during the rest of the year of smoke nuisance from Concrete Utilities Ltd., Factory at Nelson Village. Representations were made to the firm and efforts made at local level to remedy. The smoke arose as a consequence of N.I.F.E.S. advising the firm to replace coke by coal to reduce costs. The boiler fire door was altered and the fireman instructed in good stoking technique but at the end of the year smoke was still being emitted. A recommendation that an underfeed mechanical stoker be installed was not acted on but I feel that this is the only solution so long as coal is burnt.

12. On 9th May the Chairman of the Council, Mr. Patterson and myself, represented the Council on a deputation of Local Authorities which met in Newcastle on Tyne, Mr. Leslie Graham, Deputy Chairman of the National Coal Board. The aim was to



secure the removal or levelling as far as practicable of colliery spoilbanks and the stopping of future tipping, but in Seaton Valley no heaps have been removed and tipping continues on a larger scale than ever. Fortunately none of them was seriously burning during the year but sporadic outbreaks of fuming shewed the need for constant attention.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

13. 50 visits were paid to cases of infectious disease, and houses disinfected where necessary. 2 library books were disinfected and returned to the owners.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

14. The areas served by the two water undertakings are shewn below:-

##### Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co., Ltd.

Earsdon      Shiremoor      Backworth and Seghill.

##### Tynemouth Corporation.

Cramlington      Hartford      Nelson Village  
Seaton Delaval      New Hartley and Holywell.

15. 2 chemical and 3 bacteriological samples of water taken were all satisfactory.

#### MILK.

16. At the 31st December, 1956, the following figures relating to milk obtained:-

	At 31st December				
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
No. of premises registered as dairies (other than dairy farms)	5	3	3	3	3
No. of persons registered as milk distributors	21	21	34	38	41
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk					
Principal	12	12	10	10	10
Supplementary	1	1	1	1	3
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Pasteurized Milk					
Principal	14	12	12	12	10
Supplementary	2	2	2	4	3
No. of licences authorizing the sale of Sterilized Milk					
Principal	7	39	36	34	45
Supplementary	-	-	-	-	-

17. 22 samples of milk were taken during the year and tested for the presence of b. tuberculosis. All were found tuberculosis free.

18. 4 samples of pasteurized milk submitted to the phosphatase test proved satisfactory.

19. 4 samples of milk were submitted to the methylene blue test - 3 proved satisfactory, one unsatisfactory.



# FOOD INSPECTION.

20. 57 visits were paid to food shops and the undermentioned food condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Item	quantity	Item	quantity
Bacon	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Crab	4 tins
Ham	376 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	Rice	2 "
Tongue	27 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Chicken	9 "
Corned Beef	91 "	Vinegar	1 bottle
Sausage	71 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	Sugar	2 lbs.
Jellied Veal	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Sardines	3 tins
Pork	37 tins	Beetroot	1 tin
Evaporated Milk	16 "	Nuts	12 packets
Peas	34 "	Vanilla Essence	1 bottle
Beans	9 "	Rice Pudding	1 tin
Cheese	49 $\frac{5}{4}$ lbs.	Lobster	1 "
Tomatoes	34 tins	Steamed Puddings	21
Cakes	1 lb.	Minced Beef Loaf	2 tins
Jam	1 jar	Prunes	30 packets
Luncheon Meat	22 tins	Oranges	1 tin
Tinned Fruit	31 "	Ox Liver	14 lbs.
Sauce	2 bottles	Pork Pies	2
Apricots	6 tins	Fish	2 tins
Strawberries	1 tin	Grapes	1 tin
Soup	6 tins	Fruit Salad	3 tins
Stewed Steak	11 "	Poloney	3 lbs.
Grapefruit	4 "	Beef	220 "
Peaches	7 "	Ham & Tongue	2 tins
Pears	10 "	Ox Tongue	2 "
Baked Beans	2 "	Pies	5
Pineapple	12 "	Raw Ham	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Cream	4 "	Cheese Pieces	5 packets
Steak	1 tin		

## Ice Cream:

21. There were, on 31st December, 1956, two premises where ice cream is made and sold, and 35 where ice cream was sold. The following samples were taken.

Ministry of Health Provisional Grading				
No. of Samples	Grade I	II	III	IV
38	36	1	-	1

## FOOD HYGIENE.

22. The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 came fully into force on 1st July 1956. During the year visits were paid to food premises of various kinds giving advice on the means of complying with the Regulations.

23. It will be seen that some kinds of food premises did not get the attention they should have and it is hoped to remedy this in 1957.

Type of Food Shop	Number of Visits
Premises registered for sale of ice cream	71
General Dealers	36
Greengrocers	3
Bakehouses	2
Vehicles	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	9
Canteens, hostels, etc.	3
Public Houses	15
Butchers Shops	10



# MEAT INSPECTION.

24. Four slaughterhouses were licensed up to 31st July 1956. As from the 1st August 1956 the following licences were in force:-

Slaughterhouse	Occupier	Licensed until
Central Premises, Cramlington	Cramlington Co-op. Society Ltd.	31st July 1957
Butchers Buildings, New Hartley	A. Guthery	" " "
Front Street, Seghill	L. Anderson	" " "

25. No meat was condemned for cysticercosis.

Month	Animals Examined								Weight of meat condemned lbs.
	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Pigs	
Jan.	19	12	-	-	-	111	-	39	118
Feb.	12	14	-	-	-	64	-	44	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
March	10	20	2	-	-	20	-	55	174 $\frac{1}{2}$
April	10	13	-	-	-	-	-	57	142 $\frac{1}{2}$
May	5	13	-	-	-	22	-	48	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
June	12	14	-	-	-	-	-	25	132 $\frac{1}{2}$
July	1	31	-	-	-	44	-	11	90
Aug.	5	22	-	-	-	28	-	4	72
Sept.	10	19	-	-	-	33	-	25	92
Oct.	15	17	-	-	-	51	-	52	118
Nov.	8	18	-	-	-	56	4	57	119
Dec.	3	23	-	-	-	14	-	79	341
Totals:	110	216	2	-	-	443	4	496	1581 $\frac{1}{2}$

# FACTORIES ACT 1937.

	No. on Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6, are enforced by the Council:	6	3	-
Factories not included in above where sec 7 is enforced by the Council:	28	50	-
Other premises in which sec 7 is enforced by the Council:	-	-	-
Total:	34	53	-

Defects	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-
	-	-	-



PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No. of licences issued to store petroleum spirit	25	20	20	20	21	21	25
No. of licences issued to store calcium carbide	13	12	11	7	6	6	1
No. of inspections made of above stores	30	24	144	115	53	51	50

MISCELLANEOUS PREMISES.

26. There are 20 schools, 5 cinemas and no public baths or camping sites in the Council's district. Visits were paid to the above as occasion demanded for the investigation of complaints of nuisance.

RODENT CONTROL.

27. As is usual two treatments of the sewers were given during the year. The sewers are not heavily infested but there is no doubt that a considerable number of surface infestations are due to rats escaping from the sewers and drains.

The farms were included in the survey of the surface and informal action taken as needed.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

28. Your fleet of refuse vehicles is as under:

<u>Vehicle Reg.</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>First Registered</u>
DNL 835     1	Dennis	27.6.49
DJR 248     2	do.	25.3.50
DNL 834     3	do.	20.6.49
DJR 780     7	do.	24.6.50
ETY 128     8	do.	9.3.51
JTY 951    10	do.	1.11.55

Your cleansing staff comprised:

1 foreman	5 drivers	2 controlled-tipmen
1 mechanic	21 binlifters	1 salvage man.

The number of working days lost during the year was as under:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Working Days</u>	<u>Man/working Days</u>	<u>Days lost</u>
January	21	630	50
February	21	630	121
March	21	620	74
April	20	580	44
May	22	660	49
June	21	633	117
July	22	660	120
August	22	660	93
September	20	620	77
October	23	713	22
November	22	610	57
December	20	620	40
	255	7636	869



The number of man/working days lost in 1955 was 712.

29. Tipping took place at East Cramlington, Low Steads, Backworth, Cramlington Village and Hartford. Although the year was a rainy one, the trouble from tip fires did not lessen and considerable time and energy was needed to cope with this problem.

30. The main cause of these fires is the trespasser of any age. The refuse tipped is graded so that tins, bottles and large articles are buried under the ash, but there is no inert covering put over the ash. Whilst we call it ash, the top material is in fact a mixture of ash and cinder and other combustibles and of course the actual tipping face shows paper and all kinds of inflammable materials. With this circumstance must be considered the fact that tips are deliberately sited as far as possible to be away from houses and out of sight so that supervision and surveillance after working hours is very slight. Under these conditions, fires are easily caused by unauthorised persons.

31. The approximate tonnage of refuse collected is shewn below:

Month	Motor Vehicle
January	1630
February	1541
March	1562
April	1489 $\frac{1}{2}$
May	1522 $\frac{1}{4}$
June	1297 $\frac{1}{4}$
July	1366
August	1403 $\frac{1}{2}$
September	1301 $\frac{3}{4}$
October	1546 $\frac{1}{4}$
November	1606 $\frac{1}{2}$
December	1462 $\frac{3}{4}$
	17728 $\frac{1}{2}$

#### STATISTICS.

32. Population: 26,270

No. of houses with bins	-	8,470
" " " " privy boxes	-	69
" " " " pail closets	-	124
" " ashpits	-	25

#### COST OF REFUSE COLLECTION & SALVAGE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1957.

Item	Collection	Disposal	Totals
1 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>			
GROSS EXPENDITURE:			
(i) Labour	9677	2599	12276
(ii) Transport	4872	-	4872
(iii) Plant, equipment, Land & buildings	1634	311	1945
(iv) Other items	8	10	18
(v) Total gross expenditure	16191	2920	19111
2 GROSS INCOME	-	1971	1971
3 NET COST	16191	949	17140
4 Capital Expenditure met from revenue (included above)	-	-	-
<u>UNIT COSTS</u>			
5 Gross cost per ton, labour only	11s/0.4d.	2s/11.5d.	13s/11.9d.
6 Gross cost per ton, Transport only	5s/6.6d.	-	5s/6.6d.
7 Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	18s/5.5d.	1s/0.9d.	19s/6.6d.
-12- 8 Net cost per 1,000 population	£616	£36	£652
9 Net cost per 1,000 premises	£1775	£104	£1879



### OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.

10 Area (statute acres) land and inland water	12,459 acres
11 Population at 30th June 1956	26,270 persons
12 Total refuse collected (tons)	17,547 tons
13 Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	36.6 cwts.
14 Number of premises from which refuse is collected	9,120 premises
15 Average haul (miles) by collection vehicle to disposal point	2 - 3 miles
16 Kerbside collection, if practised, expressed as estimated percentage of total collection	8%
17 Total refuse disposed of	17,547 tons
18 Methods of disposal: Controlled tipping	100%
19 Salvage and Trade Refuse. Analysis of Income and tonnage:	

	Income (included in Item 2) £	Tonnage Collected
Salvage		
(a) Kitchen Waste	-	-
(b) Scrap Metal	83	14
(c) Waste Paper	1652	215
(d) Other Salvage	236	14
Totals:	£1971	243

33. The Paper Mills called for a 10% cut in the supplies of baled waste paper sent to them owing to a nation-wide surplus. It is hoped the situation will have eased by the end of 1957.

### Conclusion.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the help given by Mr. F. Cleverley, Chairman of the Health Committee, during the year, and to thank Dr. Cunningham for his support and advice. I also am indebted to the staff for all their assistance.

Your obedient Servant,

J.R. WILSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.







